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STATINTL

Fulbright Fears War In Nixon Quemoy View

By the Associated Press

Senator Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas, says the Chinese Communists could maneuver the United States into war "by a relatively easy exploit" if Vice President Nixon's views on defending the Chinese offshore islands should become United States policy.

Senator Fulbright, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, told a news conference yesterday he thought Mr. Nixon had taken a "very risky and probably unjustified" position for the defense of Quemoy and Matsu.

The two little islands are part of Nationalist China although they are only a few miles off the Communist-controlled Chinese mainland. They are outside the treaty zone covered by a United States-Nationalist Chinese mutual defense pact.

Mr. Nixon and Senator Ken-

nedy, the Democratic Presidential nominee, differed sharply on the offshore islands issue during their televised debate Friday night.

Kennedy Warned of War

Senator Kennedy said the United States should defend Formosa, seat of the Nationalist Chinese government, but should beware of being "dragged into a war which may lead to a world war" by defending the offshore islands if the Communists should make an all-out drive to grab them.

He said that this was something that could be discussed with the Nationalist Chinese and an arrangement made with them as to where the defense line should be drawn.

Mr. Nixon compared Senator Kennedy's view to "woolly thinking" and said he hoped Senator Kennedy would change his mind. He said "it isn't a question of the real estate of the people on these islands—it's a question of principle."

"We shouldn't force our Nationalist allies to get off of them and give them to the Communists," he added.

Not Justified, Says Fulbright

In reply to questions, Senator Fulbright said:

"I cannot believe we would go to war over those two islands just because of the principle. I don't see the justification for making such an issue of them."

"If we take the position Mr. Nixon takes, by a relatively easy exploit the Communists could maneuver us into war. I doubt it would have too much appeal either to our people or our allies."

Senator Fulbright said Mr. Nixon had gone farther than anyone else in the Eisenhower administration on this issue. He said he preferred Senator Kennedy's stand "until some possibility of negotiation should arise."